

Deamer, Eileen

From: Westlake, Kenneth
Sent: Tuesday, August 19, 2014 9:45 AM
To: Deamer, Eileen
Subject: FW: PolyMet Call Follow Up

-----Original Message-----

From: Walts, Alan
Sent: Friday, August 15, 2014 9:38 AM
To: Swiderski, Jim; 'Bruner, Douglas W MVP'
Cc: 'bmoore@polymetminning.com'; 'Steve.Colvin@state.mn.us'; 'Jess.Richards@state.mn.us'; 'Bob.Meier@state.mn.us'; 'rperiman@fs.fed.us'; 'mjimenez@fs.fed.us'; Westlake, Kenneth
Subject: Re: PolyMet Call Follow Up

Jim -

EPA will continue to work closely with the lead agencies on addressing our comments, in order to reach a strong and timely Final EIS. We don't anticipate any resource issues in doing so.

Best,
Alan

Original Message
From: Swiderski, Jim
Sent: Friday, August 15, 2014 9:14 AM
To: 'Bruner, Douglas W MVP'
Cc: 'bmoore@polymetminning.com'; 'Steve.Colvin@state.mn.us'; 'Jess.Richards@state.mn.us'; 'Bob.Meier@state.mn.us'; 'rperiman@fs.fed.us'; 'mjimenez@fs.fed.us'; Westlake, Kenneth; Walts, Alan
Subject: RE: PolyMet Call Follow Up

Doug,

This is excellent. Exactly what I was looking for. Hope the others can respond soon.

Jim

-----Original Message-----

From: Bruner, Douglas W MVP [mailto:Douglas.W.Bruner@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Friday, August 15, 2014 9:24 AM
To: Swiderski, Jim
Cc: 'bmoore@polymetminning.com'; 'Steve.Colvin@state.mn.us'; 'Jess.Richards@state.mn.us'; 'Bob.Meier@state.mn.us'; 'rperiman@fs.fed.us'; 'mjimenez@fs.fed.us'; 'westlake.kenneth@epa.gov'; 'walts.alan@epa.gov'
Subject: RE: PolyMet Call Follow Up

Jim,

It was a pleasure working with you and Congressman Nolan as well.

The Corps's summary of yesterday's discussion is as follows:

1. Corps staff are currently reviewing comments on the NorthMet Mine supplemental draft environmental impact statement. To date we have not identified any substantial new information.
2. Corps review of the proposed wetland mitigation sites is ongoing. These sites are not yet approved. Staff are waiting on additional hydrology and monitoring data.
3. Corps staff recommend that PolyMet draft and submit its plan to address potential indirect effects to wetlands resulting from the project. The plan would be required in advance of a permit decision.
4. The decision whether to issue a Section 404 permit will not be made until after the final environmental impact statement is issued and we have prepared our record of decision.
5. The Corps remains on schedule for its part of the review.
6. Congressman Nolan asked if sequestration has affected the federal agencies: For the St. Paul's Regulatory Branch, sequestration combined with agency decisions regarding funding has significantly impacted Regulatory staffing, resulting in a substantial impact to our permit evaluation time frames. Consequently, Corps staff are relying heavily on MDNR and U.S. Forest Staff for aspects of the review that are not related to aquatic resource impacts.

Feel free to contact me if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Doug Bruner

-----Original Message-----

From: Swiderski, Jim [mailto:Jim.Swiderski@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2014 10:51 AM

To: Bruner, Douglas W MVP; 'Steve.Colvin@state.mn.us'; 'Jess.Richards@state.mn.us'; 'Bob.Meier@state.mn.us'; 'rperiman@fs.fed.us'; 'mjimenez@fs.fed.us'; 'westlake.kenneth@epa.gov'; 'walts.alan@epa.gov'

Cc: 'bmoore@polymetminning.com'

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: PolyMet Call Follow Up

Hello again,

I want to echo what Congressman Nolan has said. It is a pleasure to work with each of you.

Congressman Nolan asked me to prepare a brief report on this meeting. Would you be so kind as to take a few minutes and send me a few paragraphs summarizing the comments you made during the meeting? The questions Congressman Nolan asked during the meeting were:

1. Please summarize where you are at overall in the review process. What is completed and what is yet to be completed?

2. What does the schedule look like going forward? What is your expected completion date? Do you foresee any problems at this point? Will subsequent permits be able to be processed on a timely basis, based on what you know at this time?
3. Is anyone waiting on anyone else at this point? How often do you communicate as a group?
4. Are there any technical issues that have surfaced that are causing concern? Would these items cause problems with environmental standards compliance? Is there a way to address these issues?
5. Is there anything Congressman Nolan can do to assist you in completing this SDEIS? Do you have access to adequate financial resources and staff?

Please also include anything in addition to the questions mentioned above that seem relevant and should be mentioned at this point. Thanks so much.

Jim

Jim Swiderski

Legislative Director

US Representative Rick Nolan

2447 Rayburn HOB

Washington, DC 20515

Jim.swiderski@mail.house.gov

202-225-6211

From: Z113 Nolan, Rick
Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2014 11:30 AM

To: 'Douglas.W.Bruner@usace.army.mil'; 'Steve.Colvin@state.mn.us'; 'Jess.Richards@state.mn.us';
'Bob.Meier@state.mn.us'; 'rperiman@fs.fed.us'; 'mjimenez@fs.fed.us'; 'westlake.kenneth@epa.gov';
'walts.alan@epa.gov'
Cc: Swiderski, Jim; 'bmoore@polymetminning.com'
Subject: PolyMet Call Follow Up

Hello everyone,

Thank you for participating in our conference call yesterday morning to review the current status of the PolyMet North Met Project SDEIS (Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement). I know you all have very busy schedules and I appreciate the time you took to prepare for this call and for your thoughtful and candid replies.

Again, let me reiterate, that I see my role as being the advocate for the people of the 8th district of Minnesota. We want jobs and a healthy environment, and that is the essential role you play in the future of our region. I am pleased that progress is being made on nearly every issue that has arisen thus far, and that the project seems to be on course for subsequent approval.

I believe in the role and mission of each of your agencies. I am, once again, so impressed by the professionalism of each of you involved in the project review. You are each a credit to your profession and to your commitment to public service.

Again, my door is open to any of you, at any time. If an issue arises that could prove problematic, please let me know. I want to help you get the job done promptly and with full confidence in the anticipated results and impacts. Please keep me and my Legislative Director Jim Swiderski updated on your progress as we move through the critical project review phases ahead.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Nolan

Member of Congress